

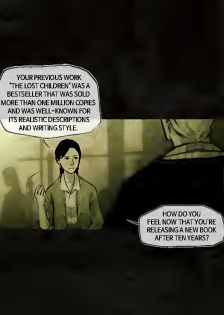
THE FOLLOWING IS A WORK OF FICTION,

THIS WORK CONTAINS SCENES WHICH MAY BE
DISTURBING FOR SOME READERS, SO THOSE WITH
WEAK HEARTS ARE ADVISED NOT TO READ ON,

A digital illustration of a white ceramic coffee cup filled with dark liquid, sitting on a matching saucer. The cup and saucer are on a light-colored surface. To the left of the cup, a portion of a dark-colored book or folder is visible. Above the cup, a white speech bubble with a black outline contains text. The background is a dark, textured grey.

FIRST OF ALL I'D
LIKE TO CONGRATULATE YOU
ON PUBLISHING YOUR NEW
BOOK IN TEN YEARS.

HAHA. THANK YOU.



YOUR PREVIOUS WORK
"THE LOST CHILDREN" WAS A
BESTSELLER THAT WAS SOLD
MORE THAN ONE MILLION COPIES
AND WAS WELL-KNOWN FOR
ITS REALISTIC DESCRIPTIONS
AND WRITING STYLE.

HOW DO YOU
FEEL NOW THAT YOU'RE
RELEASING A NEW BOOK
AFTER TEN YEARS?

EVERY TIME I PUBLISH
SOMETHING, I FEEL LIKE A CHILD
WHO'S HANDING IN HOMEWORK
TO A TEACHER TO BE EVALUATED.

THE HIGHER THE READERS'
EXPECTATIONS ARE, THE MORE
PRESSURE I FEEL.

SINCE SO MANY PEOPLE
ENJOYED MY PREVIOUS
WORK,



THE VAULT OF HORROR:
A COLLECTION OF NIGHTMARES

- THE AUTHOR -

SO, IS YOUR
NEW BOOK A SEQUEL
TO THE PREVIOUS ONE?

YEAH, I GUESS IT IS.

WOW,
AN OFFICIAL SEQUEL
AFTER TEN YEARS?
I CAN'T WAIT.

COULD YOU
TELL US A LITTLE BIT
ABOUT IT?

THIS NEW WORK...



TRY SOME.
I MADE IT WITH HERBS
FROM MY OWN
GARDEN.

IT'LL
HELP YOU
CALM DOWN.

...SURE

THANK YOU.





...NOW, LET'S
CONTINUE WHERE
WE LEFT OFF.

IF I UNDERSTAND
YOU CORRECTLY...



YOUR DAUGHTER
WENT MISSING TEN
YEARS AGO.

AND THEN NOT LONG AFTER,
I PUBLISHED MY NOVEL "THE LOST
CHILDREN" ABOUT A LITTLE GIRL WHO
DISAPPEARS IN EXACTLY THE SAME
WAY AS YOUR DAUGHTER...



SO YOU WANT
TO KNOW IF I WROTE
THAT NOVEL ABOUT
YOUR FAMILY?

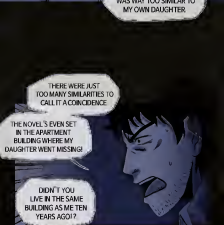
.....

IS THAT IT?



FROM THE MOMENT
I FIRST READ IT, I KNEW
RIGHT AWAY.

THE GIRL IN THE NOVEL
WAS WAY TOO SIMILAR TO
MY OWN DAUGHTER.



THERE WERE JUST
TOO MANY SIMILARITIES TO
CALL IT A COINCIDENCE.

THE NOVEL'S EVEN SET
IN THE APARTMENT
BUILDING WHERE MY
DAUGHTER WENT MISSING!

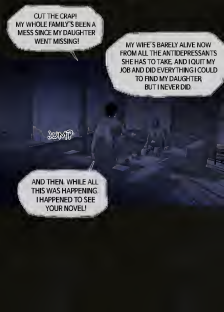
DIDN'T YOU
LIVE IN THE SAME
BUILDING AS ME TEN
YEARS AGO?



...CALM DOWN
AS I TOLD YOU BEFORE
I DID INDEED LIVE IN THE SAME
APARTMENT BUILDING AS
YOU TEN YEARS AGO,

BUT I ONLY HEARD
ABOUT YOUR DAUGHTER'S
DISAPPEARANCE FOR THE FIRST
TIME A MOMENT AGO

I HAD NO IDEA UNTIL
YOU TOLD ME TODAY.



CUT THE CRAP!
MY WHOLE FAMILY'S BEEN A
MESS SINCE MY DAUGHTER
WENT MISSING!

MY WIFE'S BARELY ALIVE NOW
FROM ALL THE ANTIDEPRESSANTS
SHE HAS TO TAKE, AND I QUIT MY
JOB AND DID EVERYTHING I COULD
TO FIND MY DAUGHTER,
BUT I NEVER DID.

AND THEN, WHILE ALL
THIS WAS HAPPENING,
I HAPPENED TO SEE
YOUR NOVEL!



THERE ARE PLENTY OF
NOVELS, MOVIES AND TV
SHOWS WHICH DEAL
WITH STORIES ABOUT
MISSING CHILDREN.

DO YOU KNOW
HOW MANY CHILDREN
DISAPPEAR EACH YEAR?

OVER THREE THOUSAND.



I'M TERRIBLY SORRY
ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED
TO YOUR DAUGHTER.

00:00:00:000

BUT SURELY YOU
CAN'T ACCUSE ME OF BEING
INVOLVED IN THIS JUST
BECAUSE I WROTE A BOOK
ABOUT A MISSING CHILD.

BUT STILL! IT'S NOT
JUST THE GIRL IN THE BOOK—
EVEN THE APARTMENT AND
THE GIRL'S FAMILY!

THERE ARE JUST TOO MANY
SIMILARITIES TO BE CALLED FICTION—
IT'S LIKE YOU WERE WATCHING
US AS YOU WROTE!



I THINK YOU WERE
A WITNESS! YOU MUST'VE
SEEN THE CREEP WHO
TRICKED AND ABDUCTED
MY DAUGHTER.

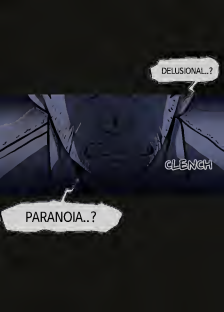
IF THERE'S
A WITNESS, THEN MAYBE
THE POLICE CAN—!!

LOOK,
I'M TELLING YOU...
I'M REALLY NOT
A WITNESS OF
ANY KIND.

WHEN AUTHORS
WRITE SOMETHING, THEY
DON'T NECESSARILY HAVE TO
EXPERIENCE OR SEE IT IN REAL
LIFE TO WRITE ABOUT IT.

THIS IS ALL JUST
A COINCIDENCE.

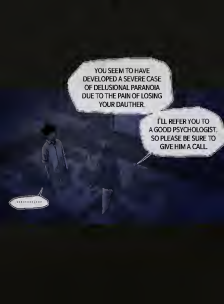




DELUSIONAL..?

CLENCH

PARANOIA..?



YOU SEEM TO HAVE
DEVELOPED A SEVERE CASE
OF DELUSIONAL PARANOIA
DUE TO THE PAIN OF LOSING
YOUR DAUGHTER.

I'LL REFER YOU TO
A GOOD PSYCHOLOGIST.
SO PLEASE BE SURE TO
GIVE HIM A CALL.

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... NO. I KNOW YOU
WROTE THAT BOOK
ABOUT MY DAUGHTER.

THERE'S
NO WAY YOU COULD
HAVE WRITTEN
IT OTHERWISE!!

N-NOW LOOK!



A close-up, high-contrast illustration of a man's face. He has a wide, screaming mouth showing teeth and a single, large, bulging eye. He is pointing his right index finger towards the viewer. The background is dark and indistinct.

NO..!!
LOOK AT WHAT
YOU WROTE!

IT'S EXACTLY THE
SAME!!

THE GIRL IN
THIS BOOK IS MY
DAUGHTER!!

A man with a beard and mustache, wearing a dark suit and tie, is shown from the chest up. He has a pained or shouting expression, with his mouth wide open and his hands pressed against his cheeks. The background is dark and indistinct.

YEAH!! IT WAS YOU!!

CLASP?

YOU'RE NOT
A WITNESS - YOU'RE
THE CRIMINAL!!

THAT'S WHY YOU'RE
PLAYING DUMB!!

WHERE IS SHE!!
WHAT THE HELL
DID YOU DO WITH HER!!



S-SNAP OUT OF IT!!

GASP...

IT'S JUST A NOVEL!
IT'S FICTION!

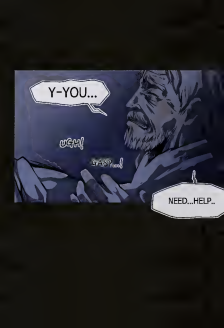
GAG...



SHUT UP!!

I..I
I KNOW
I'M RIGHT!!!

THAT NOVEL
MUST BE--!!

A man with a beard and a woman with blonde hair are in a dark room. The man is looking at the woman, who is looking down. There are three speech bubbles in the image.

Y-YOU...

OW!

YESS...!

NEED...HELP..



SHUT UP!!!

I'M...

I'M NOT
CRAZY!!!

SQUEEEZE-!

GAG...!

UGH...

HUFF...

AGH...

UHH...

UHH...



BRIDGE 2000 20

BRIDGE 2000 20



WHAT HAPPENED..

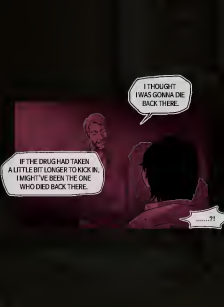
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BOFFLE!

BOFFLE!

ARE YOU AWAKE?





I THOUGHT
I WAS GONNA DIE
BACK THERE.

IF THE DRUG HAD TAKEN
A LITTLE BIT LONGER TO KICK IN,
I MIGHT'VE BEEN THE ONE
WHO DIED BACK THERE.

.....?!



Y-YOU...

DRUGGED MY
TEA..!



SO? DID YOU LIKE
HOW IT TASTES?

TO BE HONEST,
I NEVER THOUGHT
YOU'D STILL BE AFTER ME
TEN YEARS LATER.



W-WHERE
IS MY
DAUGHTER..!

IF YOU KILLED
HER, AT LEAST
SHOW ME
HER BODY...!!

TREMBLE

TELL ME!
PLEASE!!

TREMBLE



...A BODY?

THERE ISN'T ONE.

S-SO THEN...

IS SHE...
STILL ALIVE?!



NO, I MEAN...

SLURP

I ATE HER.

SLOWLY-

HURRY
HURRY-

DOWN TO HER
LAST FINGER-

EVERYTHING.

SO, IS YOUR
NEW BOOK A SEQUEL TO
THE PREVIOUS ONE?

YEAH, I GUESS IT IS





WOW,
AN OFFICIAL SEQUEL
AFTER 10 YEARS?
I CAN'T WAIT

COULD YOU
TELL US A LITTLE
BIT ABOUT IT?



THIS NEW
WORK..

THE KILLER FROM
THE PREVIOUS BOOK WHO
ABDUCTED THE CHILDREN
BECOMES A CANNIBAL





HEHE. IF YOU
READ IT YOU'LL FIND
OUT MORE

AS WITH ALL
OF MY BOOKS...



EVERYTHING'S
DESCRIBED EXTREMELY
VIVIDLY.

(THE AUTHOR) END OF EPISODE